

Remarks

Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended, and claim 4 has been canceled. Claims 1-3 and 5-9 remain pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, in view of the discussion below, are respectfully requested.

The examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the examiner stated that the extremity of the L-shaped cross section, the enlarged portion, the spacer, the absorber mass, the flexible inlet/outlet connection, the oversize opening and the flexible pipe must be shown or the features canceled from the claims. Claim 4 has been canceled with respect to the absorber mass objection. However, all of the other cited features are clearly shown in the drawings. In particular, Fig. 3 shows the L-shaped cross-section and the enlarged portion/spacers, the first of which is shown by reference numeral 23 and the second of which is shown by reference 22. See the specification at page 6, lines 28-37 for explanation. The flexible inlet/outlet connection, the oversized opening and the flexible pipes, are all clearly shown in Fig. 4. In particular, the flexible inlet/outlet connection is provided by the rubber boots 9 and/or the bellows sections 10, the oversized opening is provided by a short length of tube 8 and the flexible pipe section is shown by the bellows section 10. See the specification at page 5, line 32 to page 6, line 13.

The examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 7, as well as claim 8, have been amended to include more clear antecedent basis for the limitation "inlet/outlet" in those claims.

The examiner rejected claims 1, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,778,992 to Wulfert. Claim 1 had been amended to include in the body of the claim that the invention relates specifically to a domestic combined heat and power appliance, and that the brackets are adapted for the purpose of mounting to a wall.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is clearly distinguished from this reference, which has no relevance whatsoever to the present invention. Claim 1 is directed to a "domestic

combined heat and power appliance.” Furthermore, the brackets are now claimed to be adapted to mount the housing to a wall. The cited prior art neither discloses a domestic combined heat and power appliance nor brackets adapted for wall mounting.

Wulfert relates to "motors and other machines," but there is no suggestion that the disclosure can be useful for a domestic combined heat and power appliance. More importantly, the mounting is quite clearly designed specifically to mount the motor on a horizontal surface. The cradle-like design of Wulfert has clearly been conceived with the design for such a horizontal mounting and there is no suggestion that this could be used for a wall mounting arrangement. Thus, the prior art does not anticipate claim 1, as amended.

Furthermore, Wulfert can not be used as the basis for finding claim 1 or any dependent claims to be obvious. Claim 1 requires that each extremity of the L-shaped cross-section of the bracket have an enlarged portion. To the extent that the bracket 2 of Wulfert can be considered to have an L-shaped cross-section, it does not have an enlarged portion at each extremity. The first enlarged portion in claim 1 provides a spacer between the main body and the housing. In Wulfert, this spacing is provided by the bushings 4 and not by an enlarged extremity of the L-shaped cross-section of the bracket. Secondly, claim 1 requires the second enlarged portion to provide a spacer between the main body and the wall. This is meaningless in relation to Wulfert, in which there can be no wall mounting portion to provide a spacer between a bracket and a wall. The brackets of Wulfert are spaced from the horizontal surface. However, this is done by the brackets being supported on a base member, not on an enlarged portion of the bracket.

In view of the present amendments to the claims and the remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-3 and 5-9 are allowable, and Applicants request that the examiner pass these claims to issuance at an early date.

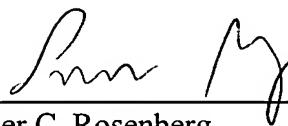
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Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.

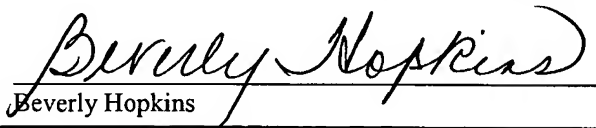


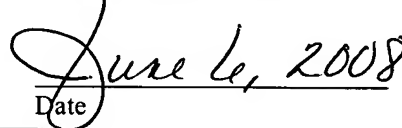
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